

Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Sanctuary Advisory Council

Sanctuary Education Team

Meeting Notes

Date: 2002 August 14

Time + Place: 6 to 8 PM; Chase Palm Park Center, Santa Barbara

1) Welcome, Introductions

Members Present:

Kathy deWet-Oleson, Chair
Mike Behrens, Research
Michael Hanrahan, Media
Barry Hummel, Diving
Holly Lohuis, Tourism
Cal Meuser, Recreational Boating
Lori Pye, Conservation
Mary Stack, Marine Education

Members Absent:

Bill Kulhanek, Yachting
Frank Sullivan, recreational Fishing

2) Larry Manson resignation

A letter written by Larry Manson announced his resignation from the SAC as Education Representative for SAC and Co-Chair of SET. Larry is involved with an enormous and complex building project at Ventura College, which will command his attention the next several years. The complete text of his letter is at the end of the Notes.

Notices will be sent out soon to fill the position for the SAC, and that person will serve the SET as Co-Chair with Kathy deWet-Oleson.

3) Guest Speaker: Satie Airame

Satie Airame showed a fifteen minute video produced by PISCO, Partnership for Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans.

This was the first public showing of the video based on a 24 page brochure that Satie also presented in PowerPoint.

Very briefly, the video and brochure are based on global research of marine protected areas. In general, the studies found that species benefited greatly from protection and lived longer, grew larger, and produced more eggs in reserve areas. Size and interconnectedness of protected areas, in addition to the sensitive encompassing of essential habitats can produce remarkable results in a short period of time. However, species that take a greater time to mature will not respond so quickly.

Michael Hanrahan praised the video and brochure as important tools for SET, and said that for some targets, an expanded version that included full interviews should be considered (like behind the scenes material on expanded DVDs).

Lori Pye asked about distribution of the brochures and Satie said it has not yet been printed and that PISCO was determining how much demand there is. Satie noted that CINMS would receive 5,000 from the first printing and that if other wanted quantities, the unit price would go down if more are printed.

Below is the website for PISCO where there is information about the video and brochure.

<http://www.piscoweb.org/>

4) Guest Speaker: Mark Becker

Mark Becker, generously stepped in as a last-minute replacement for Harry Liquornik, Fishing Representative for SAC. Mark described himself as a long-time fisher here and in Alaska where there are significant and complex fishing regulations and area restrictions.

A fundamental question is: How does one fish legally?

He read from a 2002 code book where the definition of a restricted area was so confusing as to make it unidentifiable to a concerned fisher.

He went on to describe the difference in navigational systems, which can give significantly different position information. In

Alaska, they have gone so far as to stipulate a particular system.

He recommended that those setting boundaries of reserve areas make them easily defined latitude and longitude that achieves a distinct line and permits tolerances of no more than 150 feet. People should know with certainty whether they are inside or out.

He further recommended that enforcement people know what is enforceable in court. If it is not, there is no point issuing a ticket.

Commercial fishers are, for the most part, law-abiding and recognize that they have a lot to lose if their permits are revoked. They are most likely to comply with whatever regulations, and so it is all the more important to create boundaries that can be distinguished. Sport fishers, primarily those on private boats, are another matter. It will be near impossible to get everyone to use and understand (think how many people cannot program their VCR) a single navigational system.

Education and Enforcement must work together to create a workable system.

5) Members' Reports

Because of the late hour, reports will be made via email or held until next meeting.

6) Mission Statement Discussion

By unanimous decision, the members voted to adopt a mission statement:

The Sanctuary Education Team role is to assist the Sanctuary Advisory Council in making recommendations to the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary. The SET's mission is to advance public understanding of the biodiversity, ecology, and cultural legacy that comprise this unique and diverse region and to promote stewardship of marine ecosystems.

7) Select Meeting Date

Following the excellent, in-depth presentations by Satie Airame and Mark Becker, Kathy deWet-Oleson suggested that SET and the enforcement working group have a joint meeting, perhaps the next SET meeting. All were in favor. A date of Wednesday,

October 16 was tentatively selected for the next meeting to be held at 6 PM in Ventura County.

Larry Manson Resignation Letter:

Dear Sanctuary Education Team members.

This is to let you know that I am resigning from the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council. Although I regret having to leave the SAC when educational activities are really getting started, I simply do not have the time to devote to the important work of the SAC and the Sanctuary Education Team.

The good news, however, is that the voters of Ventura County passed Measure S, a 375 million dollar bond measure for the colleges in the Ventura County Community College District. The bond will provide Ventura College with 117 million dollars for construction projects to be completed within the next decade. For a number of years, I have been co-chairing a 21 million dollar Learning Resource Center project for Ventura College. We are within a month or two of breaking ground and I will have continuing responsibilities during the construction phase. I will also, of course, be teaching. Now, with the passage of Measure S, we are rapidly moving into the design phase for a number of building projects for the college. I will be heavily involved in the planning process and, as a result, I must reduce my commitment to other activities in my life.

For me, the coming years are the culmination of a third of a century dedicated to community college teaching. I am very excited about my involvement in being a small part in creating the next century of educational opportunity for Ventura College students, teachers, staff, and administrators. It is, literally, an opportunity of a lifetime.

While I regret having to tender my resignation, I do want to thank all of you for your willingness to participate in the Sanctuary Educational Team. The work that you are doing is crucial to the ongoing health of the Sanctuary's waters and the preservation of the environment for future generations. As a new grandparent, I hope to see my grandchildren be able to enjoy the Channel Islands as I have. You will help to make that possible.

It has been an honor to have been involved, for the past three and a half years, in the Sanctuary Advisory Council. Kathy deWet-Oleson will be chairing the SET in my absence and I know she will do an excellent job. Thank you all, very much, for your caring and your work. I wish you all the best in your continuing work.

Yours truly,

Lawrence Manson